

2-27-89

APR 24 1989

Inside Today:

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Haunted by
a childhood
nightmare

See page 6

**IMAGINE
THIS!!!**



See page 4

Valley Star

Serving Valley College for 40 years

Vol. 40, No. 16

Van Nuys, California

NEWS BRIEFS

Monday Only add cards accepted until March 3

Add cards for *Monday Only* classes will be accepted through Friday, March 3. Tomorrow is the last day to process added classes with the Admissions Office for classes that are not *Monday Only* classes.

Because *Monday Only* classes did not meet due to school holidays on Feb. 13 and Feb. 20, students who wish to add these classes will only be able to see instructors on Monday, Feb. 27.

Graduation petitions due

The deadline to turn in petitions for Spring 1989 graduation from Valley College is Friday, March 3 at 4 p.m.

Petitions are available in the Graduation Office, Administration Building, Room 127.

Crown to arrive March 1

Crown Magazine will be distributed at Valley College March 1. All of the articles, poems, photos and illustrations, as well as the production, were done by Valley College journalism students.

Nancy Wedeen served as editor in chief for the Fall 1988 *Crown*, which will be available free of charge in the Library, Bookstore, Administration Building and the Journalism/Media Arts Bungalow 25.

District to hire teachers

Applications for Fall 1989 instructor vacancies are now being accepted by the Los Angeles Community College District.

Applications and other information may be obtained by writing the Division of Human Resources, Los Angeles Community College District, 617 W. Seventh St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90017, or by calling (213) 628-7788, ext. 2211.

The district is actively seeking instructors in a wide variety of positions from anthropology to Spanish.

New loan policy opposed

New regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Education intended to lower the rate of defaults on student loans were unanimously opposed by the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees.

The regulations would potentially allow the department to end an institution's participation in student loan programs.

The board's motions was introduced by Trustee David Lopez-Lee, who noted that colleges with students from poorer communities tend to have higher default rates.

The Wheel Thing ...



GIANNI PIROVANO / Valley Star

Momentarily a blur, Valley student/cyclist flashes by the Men's Gym.

Campus crime drops by one-quarter

By BETH KATZEN
Staff Writer

Over the past two years, 23 incidents of battery were the most violent crimes involving injury to people on campus. 16 cases of battery were reported to campus police in '88.

However, "none of the batteries included serious injury and resulted from personal disputes where the perpetrator was known or identified by the victim," said Campus Police Captain J.J. Wolf.

Statistics recently revealed by Wolf showed a 24 percent drop in LAVC crime in 1988 from that of the previous year.

Ranging from auto theft to battery, 179 criminal acts were committed in 1988 while 235 took place in 1987. Auto vandalism was the single most recurring crime for both years.

Daytime break-ins constituted 61 percent of the thefts in 1987. Among the items taken were 19 car stereos.

In 1988 only 31 percent of the thefts from motor vehicles occurred during the day. 20 car stereos were stolen that year.

"I have no explanation why there was a shift in break-in times of day. This is just one of those unexplainable things," said Wolf.

In some instances the target of the thief was the ever-popular Garfield cat whose feet are equipped with suction cups, enabling it to stick to car windows. In approximately one-third of the vehicles broken into in 1988, nothing more than a Garfield cat was taken.

Parking lot D with 38 incidents of

theft from motor vehicles and parking lot B with 20 sustained the most vehicle break-ins, while lot H with four break-ins for both years experienced the least.

On several occasions campus police attempted to thwart vandals as they were breaking into vehicles.

"We caught [vandals] as they smashed a window or a student reported what was going on and we responded to the student's report.

But in most cases when we tried to apprehend them they ran to Grant High School and then disappeared into the crowd," said Wolf.

The number of stolen vehicles decreased from 27 in 1987 to 17 in 1988, and 58 percent of them were taken in daylight hours. Parking lot D, with 14 thefts for the two years, was hit the hardest. Lot H had the least amount of reported car thefts with two. According to Wolf, late model 70s and early model 80s Toyota and Datsun vehicles were the most sought after in 1987. But in 1988, the types of vehicles stolen "jumped all over the spectrum," said Wolf.

In order to deal with the problem of automobile vandalism, Wolf intends to beef up parking lot patrols. He also believes that an increased budget for security would result in a decrease in campus crime.

Students can also help prevent theft by reporting anything that looks suspicious to campus police.

Moreover, "students should not leave anything of value in their auto. It's like leaving a key under a flower pot or doormat of a house," emphasized Wolf.

In addition to auto theft and theft from motor vehicles, Valley's park-

ing lots have been used as a depository for stolen vehicles.

Normally, the vehicles are discovered in the late evenings, early mornings or weekends because "when they are sitting in lots that are not in use they look suspicious," said Wolf. "Sometimes the vehicles are stripped. And most of the time we have found that they have been hot wired."

Valley has also been hit by equipment vandals who have stolen computers, video equipment and other various items. Initial estimates of computer losses totaled \$49,900 which includes the theft of the computer from the Associated Student Union office in 1987.

In 1988 the computer lab lost 12 computers, and the business journalism building sustained 20 computer losses. To date, however, 95 percent of the computers have been recovered.

"The LAPD caught the guy who was fencing the computers... and he had computers from both break-ins," said Wolf.

Valley's bookstore, library, ASU office and men's gym were among some of the buildings vandalized during late-night hours and weekends in 1987. In most of the instances small change was taken. In 1988 the bookstore, men's gym, cafeteria, computer lab, business journalism building and Lion's Den were broken into.

The recent burglaries of the Lion's Den, where money was taken from the vending machines, has prompted further security measures. Thus, the machines will now be emptied of their change on a regular basis.

While the interiors of Valley's

Ax to fall Friday on non-payers

By CATHERINE PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

For the first time Valley College is waiting until the last day of the third week to sweep 1,500 to 2,000 students who have not paid enrollment fees, refuting warning letters saying the fatal day would be Friday of the first week.

Students who have not paid their fees will be dropped from classes at Valley if they have not paid by 2 p.m. Friday.

Usually Valley chooses Friday of the first week to purge classes of collegians who don't pay so that new students can enter a previously filled class.

Everytime a non-paying student is dropped from a three-unit class where a paying student

has been excluded, the school loses \$350.

"We wanted to give students the optimum amount of time we felt we could reserve," said Sam Mayo, assistant dean of admissions, explaining the extension of the grace period.

Valley is a "poor people's school" said Mayo. "Three to four thousand people do not pay their fees right away," he said. "We take people who are dependent on a social security or child support check."

All nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District do not drop non-paying students on the same date. Mayo also said Valley's liberal policy of allowing students to enroll now, pay later is not mandatory.

Some teachers will not allow new students to enter class after the third week even if the

see SWEEPS, page 3

Faculty requests early evaluation

By DIANA MOSS
Assoc. Opinion Editor

The Faculty Senate at Valley College has asked President Mary Lee to request a comprehensive evaluation for accreditation for the school. The process will begin on April 25.

Accreditation is a process which involves professional peer review and institutional self-study. The process allows students to transfer to other colleges, receive financial aid and reports to the community on how the school is doing.

The decentralization in the district prompted

the request according to Val Villa, dean of academic affairs. "We [community colleges] are doing more to run ourselves and in this period of change to have an evaluation of ourselves would be very valuable," said Villa.

Valley College was last reaffirmed for accreditation in October 1983. The interval for comprehensive evaluation is usually five years following the initial accreditation, and every 10 years thereafter.

The school could ask for a comprehensive evaluation in the fifth year of the 10-year cycle.

Valley College is accredited by the Western

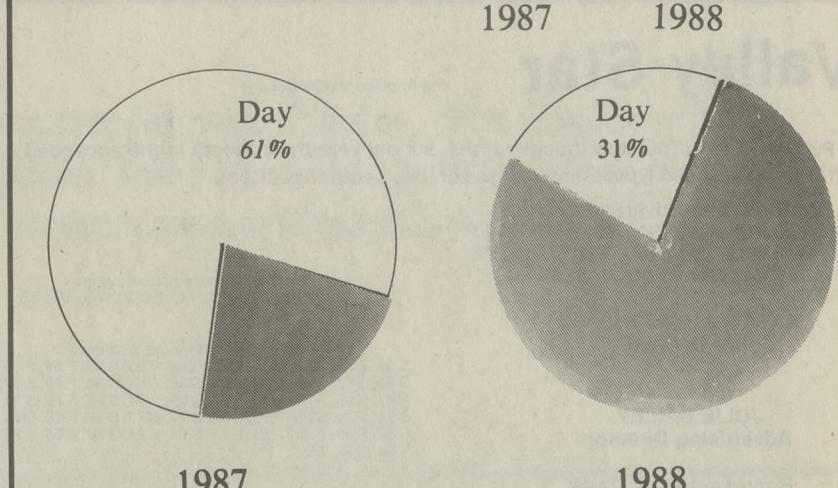
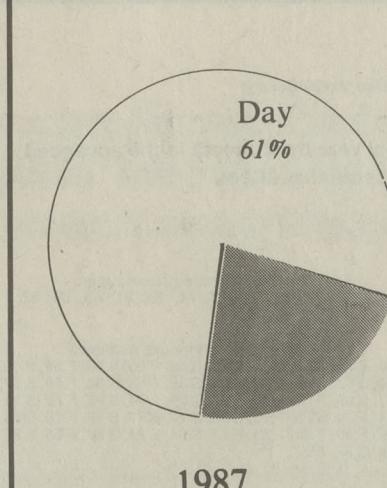
see ACCREDITATION, page 3

TRENDS

Graph, right, indicates 235 criminal acts in 1987 as opposed to 179 in 1988, a 24 percent decrease.

Charts, below, show percentage of daytime thefts from motor vehicles for 1987-1988.

1987 1988



1988

—STAR EDITORIAL—

U.S. seeking literacy

As a nation, we are overweight and undernourished. We're also over-informed and under-educated. In spite of the flood of information available in newspapers and magazines, and on radio and television, many people are deficient in knowledge because they can not read.

The United States ranks an appalling 49th in literacy relative to the other 105 members of the United Nations. Researchers estimate that at least 23 million Americans are functionally illiterate: They lack the ability to understand a map, read a menu or write a check; they are unable to read the want ads or to complete an application for employment.

Approximately 75 percent of the nation's prison population, 50 percent of the chronically unemployed, and 33 percent of all welfare recipients are functionally illiterate.

Jonathan Kozol, author of *Illiterate America*, states that over one-third of the adult population is unable to read and understand the warning on a pack of cigarettes or comprehend the documents they sign to buy a car. More than one-third of the adult population is unable to read editorial opinions.

Everyone agrees that literacy is important: Literacy is an element vital to a strong democracy. Voters should be able to understand political issues. Individuals should know about themselves, their city, their nation. Yet today's adults are woefully ignorant about geography, culture, history and current events.

Reading and writing are, everyone agrees, necessary life skills. However, year after year, high school students graduate with only minimal reading ability. Many college students need to take remedial reading and writing

classes before they begin to study.

California's Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) program helps welfare recipients become self-supporting through comprehensive training. State officials estimate, after a 26 county survey, that 67 percent of those currently active in the GAIN program do not have the necessary skills to find and keep a job.

President George Bush believes that literacy is the best solution to poverty. First Lady Barbara Bush, who has been an active supporter of literacy programs since 1982, said recently, "Reading is the key that unlocks the door to ... the American Dream."

Volunteers can help. Public libraries, along with California Literacy, Inc., recruit volunteer tutors who are given 12 hours of free literacy training before being assigned to help others learn to read.

The Los Angeles County Public Library has set up a toll-free literacy hotline, (800) 372-6641, and the Los Angeles City Public Library welcomes calls at (213) 750-3573.

Public spirited volunteerism could make a difference in the illiteracy rate—and in the health of the nation. This is an opportunity for college students to benefit society and gain valuable experience while sharing their knowledge and skills as volunteer tutors.

Instead of growing fat on the empty calories of TV trivia, our nation should be growing strong and unlocking the door to the American Dream.

If we are to remain a free and strong democracy, we must be willing to provide every citizen with the ability to read.

Ethics are going 'Kaput'

By JUDITH WAXMAN
View Editor

Ethics is the difference between what we have a right to do and what is the right thing to do.

In our daily lives, many ethical questions are raised and too many ethical standards are lowered. Like morals and scruples, ethics has become a dirty word, and unethical behavior has become a bonanza for the legal profession.

Can civilization exist without ethics?

The decline of ethical behavior became apparent to me when dealing with dishonest automobile mechanics and television repairmen

and once was a joke; now, with shoddy workmanship, insider trading and corrupted public officials, it has become a national tragedy.

In the '70s, President Nixon's Watergate break-in and cover-up became his and his unethical aides' "Waterloo."

Then, President Carter's and President Reagan's appointed officials, one after the other, resigned their offices, under clouds of questionable conduct. When their ethics were suspect, sooner or later, their jobs were "kaput."

Now, President Bush has made high ethical standards a priority and has selected C. Boyden Gray, the White House counsel, as his ethics

adviser. But with his other private positions, Gray may have a conflict of interests.

When private interest clashes with public trust, a personal code of conduct—ethics—is necessary.

Recently, an "ethical atrocity" was almost enacted in Congress. By *not* voting, the lawmakers unethically tried to give themselves a 50 percent pay raise. Outraged citizens decried the deception, causing the Congress to vote against the raise.

Closer to home, the erosion of ethical behavior is evident everywhere.

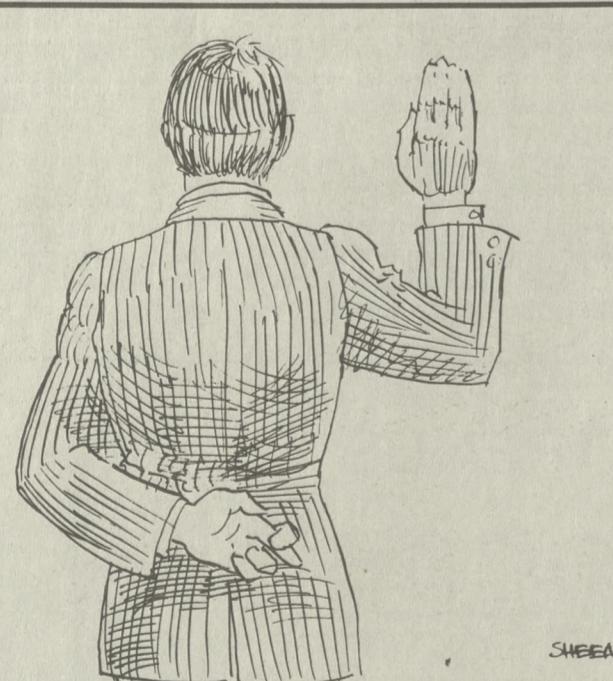
"It isn't ethical of me to tell you what to bid," said a realtor, who then told her client an acceptable bid. Then, when someone else behaved ethically, she said that they were "too ethical." For someone without ethics, a person with ethics is too ethical.

Far from too ethical is my only sibling, my brother, Jack. Two years ago, my mother, our only relative, died. At a time when we could have consoled and become closer to each other, my brother, who is financially secure for life, hired a lawyer. Threatened with legal action, I gave my brother what he wanted: more money, and did what I wanted: I severed relations with him.

What has happened to the right thing to do? Can ethics and quality usurp greed and corruption? Where do we draw the line in a "bottom line" society?

The dictionary defines ethics as a moral duty, a discipline dealing with good and evil.

Beat the devil.



Sheean

Valley Star

Los Angeles Valley College

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LETTERS

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Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or

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America's nightmare

... Hello Big Media

By ROBERT P. CHRISTIAN
Assoc. Opinion Editor

"Good evening. This is CBS Evening News and I'm Dan Rather. Tonight's headline: 'America is No Longer a Democracy.'"

Hearing a lead like that was as unlikely as "Reagan and Bush Convicted of Treason," or "Exxon Ends World Hunger." I was so surprised I let my full bottle of Miller High Life empty right onto the freshly cleaned sofa while I clambered for the remote control to turn up the volume.

It was one of those extreme coincidences you hear people going all agog about, only this one was truly amazing. I had just spent the last four months interrogating 24 college

think solutions to problems like Vietnam were all just a shootout away.

How, by trimming the news of negative reports on the private sector (like the help given by corporations to put Reagan and Bush in the White House) and sensationalizing negative reports on the public sector (like the Gary Hart-Donna Rice tryst) they turned most people against the government.

How programming like *Dallas*, *Dynasty* and *Knots Landing* made greed and unscrupulous cunning seem elegant and desirable—even during recessions, bank failures, market crashes, skyrocketing deficits and more.

"Today there are approximately 25,000 individual media companies—newspapers, magazines,

"Virtually everything you see, hear and read is controlled by them ..."

students and 10 professors and examining mounds of books and records from file graveyards to write a pair of articles on our society and the media for the new issue of *Crown* magazine.

Those articles were full of other people's ideas. My next article would reveal my own terrifying conclusion that the investigation uncovered, but it looked like Dan beat me to it: American democracy was murdered by the corporate media.

From that jolting lead, Dan went into an impromptu disclaimer. I sat back down on the sofa and was distracted by the cold-filtered brew seeping through my pants, but I think he said that he was by no means speaking for CBS, that he and his producers had had enough of the facade and were finally going to tell it like it was.

Next, he said: "America is now ruled by an oligarchy. It consists of 26 men and women who head multinational corporations who, over 20 years, have quietly obtained controlling shares of all major media outlets, defense contractors, transportation systems, pharmaceutical and communication companies.

"They also have the entire White House staff, including President Bush and Vice President Dan Quayle, and about one-third of Congress under contract."

It all checked. Everything he said was true, and I had the data to prove it. Why, of all times I thought, did Dan Rather choose this time to come clean?

He named names like Citicorp, General Electric, even Exxon. He gave dates like 1938, when Orson Welles demonstrated how gullible America was with *War of the Worlds*; 1941, when Bulova Watch started TV commercials and 1983, when there were still 50 of these corporate dictators.

Then Dan explained how they used the media to defeat the country's feeling for democracy: how it really took hold in the 1960s with Westerns that conditioned people to

radio, television, books and movies—in America and most of them are owned by these 26 corporate chiefs.

"Virtually everything you see, hear and read is controlled by them. They constitute a new Private Ministry of Information and Culture. Yes, there are still some independent media voices who try to fill in the information gaps left by the majors, but they are small, and are no match for the thunder from the media giants."

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The assailant was said to have come from a troubled background with family and friends all dead.

No one I talked to saw this spectacle, but they all saw, heard or read the news reports. When I told them what I thought I saw, they pooh-poohed.

"Fine," I said, "then I can write my article after all." But first I had to clean that nasty beer stain off the sofa. I got the can of upholstery cleaner and was covering the stain with a blanket of thick white cleansing foam when I spotted a note I took when I made the mess. It was only one line, but I remember writing it in a moment of profound clarity. The note read: "Bye-bye Big Brother, hello Big Media."

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28 pints donated**Blood drive ends today**By KATHI JOHNSON
News Editor

Blood donated at this college today may have already helped save someone's life.

According to Cheryle Babitt, director of community relations at the American Red Cross, blood is tested and ready for use within 24 hours.

More women donated blood than men at the blood drive yesterday, with 28 pints being given by 35 people, according to Sharon Harrison, an American Red Cross nurse.

The blood drive will continue in the Fireside Room of the Campus Center Building from 8:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. today.

Appointments may be made by contacting Pat Hodges at the student services department in the Campus Center. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Donors are required to sit for 15 minutes after they give blood so that nurses can observe them for signs of dizziness or loss of consciousness.

The indications may be a blank stare or paleness, "A lot of times it's because they don't eat properly or they get over-excited," said Harrison.

When donors get scared or become reluctant to give blood, Harrison said she just reassures them. She lets them know it takes a special person to donate blood, then she explains the process step-by-step.

The first thing a donor is asked to do is fill out a history card that lets the nurses know if there are any illnesses or problems that could pre-

vent the donation.

When the blood is shipped to the central lab in Los Angeles, the information from the history card is entered into a central computerized record so that if at any time during the testing, which takes approximately 24 hours, something is found wrong with the blood it can be tracked down immediately and quarantined.

The tests check for syphilis, HIV (AIDS) and hepatitis, in addition to HTLV 1, a rare virus associated with leukemia. Once blood is quarantined, it is autoclaved and disposed of as bio-hazardous waste. "There is no risk of it being distributed accidentally," said Babitt.

"One thousand persons each day require [donated] blood in order to survive," Pat Hodges, assistant dean of student affairs at Valley, said in an inter-office memo encouraging instructors to donate.

Burn victims, people undergoing surgery and people with bleeding disorders all benefit from blood donations.

Each pint of blood is broken down into three parts. Red cells are removed and used to carry oxygen to vital organs during surgery. It is also important in the treatment of anemia and kidney dialysis, according to Babitt.

Plasma adds essential proteins to the blood of burn victims, who suffer from dehydration. And platelets stop the blood from clotting and are used on patients during surgery as well as people with bleeding disorders whose blood does not clot.

Accredit...

(continued from page 1)

Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

Even though accreditation is voluntary and non-governmental, every institution in California which receives state funds must belong to the association.

In order for the college to be evaluated, it must produce a comprehensive *Institutional Self Study and Report* to the Commission.

A steering committee is formed to produce the self-study. The committee chair and the self-study editor is Professor Mary Spangler of Valley's English Dept.

Sub-committee chairs include Professors Elizabeth Friedman and Phillip Clarke.

The committee and its sub-committees are made up of 125 people who are a cross-section of the community. The group includes students, faculty, classified employees, administration and other members of the community.

The committee has been working on the self-study for the past two years. The group must follow the guidelines set by the *Handbook of Accreditation*.

"The *Handbook of Accreditation* outlines the standards of good practice," said Villa, who will be the accreditation liaison officer for Valley. "We analyze on the basis of good standards—description, appraisal and planning."

The committee responds to the recommendations of the previous committee and those from the last reaffirmation of accreditation.

In April, the WASC will send a 13 member team to Valley College, for three days, to evaluate the school. The team's chair is Constance Carroll, the president of Saddleback College.

The standards Valley will be evaluated on are goals and objectives, educational programs, institutional staff, student services, community services, learning resources, physical resources, financial

resources, governance/administration and district or system relationships.

Each member of the evaluation team will be given a primary and secondary assignment to investigate. They will ask questions of the staff and students during the evaluation process.

An open meeting will be held on campus April 27 to discuss the findings of the team.

The WASC will meet in June to evaluate the team's findings.

According to Villa, Valley has never been warned or put on probation.

"I have no fears about Valley not passing," said Villa, "Valley has always passed."

Cleaning and inventorying of 700,000 waterlogged books will be

—News Notes—**CHEERLEADER CLINIC**

Males and females are invited to come to the cheerleading clinic, held March 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, and 17 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Cheerleading tryouts will be Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. Interested students must be enrolled in nine or more units and be an ASU member.

For more information, call Ed Santos at (818) 365-7750.

RESTORE BOOKS

Volunteers are sought to aid in a massive effort to restore books for the Central Library at its temporary location in downtown Los Angeles.

Cleaning and inventorying of 700,000 waterlogged books will be

done during daytime and evening shifts, Monday through Saturday.

Two fires set by arsonists forced the Central Library to close in 1986. Completion of its renovation is set for 1992. Volunteers will work at the temporary site, 433 S. Spring St. For more information, call (213) 612-3261.

FREE GUIDE

The 1989 Student Travel Catalog—a free, 68-page guide to special opportunities for travel, study and work overseas is available for the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE).

Send \$1 for postage and handling to CIEE, Dept. 16, 205 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017.

Sweeps...

(continued from page 1)

drop sweep creates space, said Mayo.

Because the state pays the college based in part on the Average Daily Attendance (ADA), which is calculated during the fourth week of the semester, the district loses money if a paying student cannot enroll.

Mayo described a scenario where a student, dropped from an impacted English 101 class at the third week, deprived someone of taking the class. Delay in one student's educational plan and loss of money for Valley are the result.

Students dropped in Friday's sweep may be re-instated at the teacher's discretion, provided the fees are paid within 24 hours.

Delaying the exclusion of non-paying students until the third week "is an experiment," said Mayo, and is meant to help people who need a short deferral.

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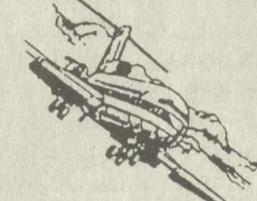
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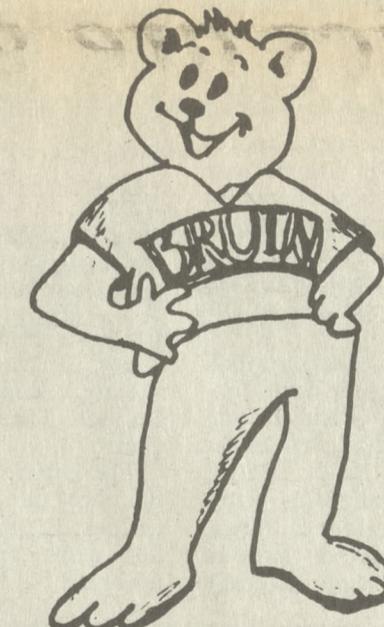
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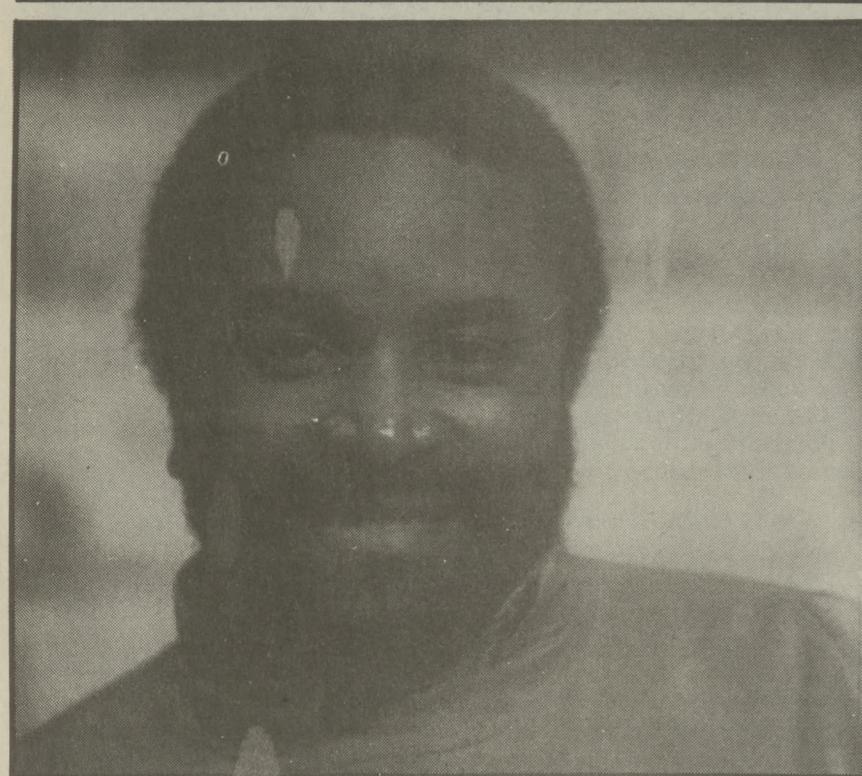
**The 1989 Summer Sessions Calendar**

First six-week Session	June 26-August 4
Eight-week Session	June 26-August 18
Ten-week Session	June 26-September 1
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Dr. Donald Hayes will direct the premiere of *The Day They Shot John Lennon*.

KAREN WATERS / Valley Star

'The Day They Shot John Lennon' Play makes Western premiere

By J. LAWSON BREWER
Staff Writer

Director Donald Hayes calls it "our little celebration of the Beatles."

The celebration refers to *The Day They Shot John Lennon*, which will receive its West Coast premiere here at Valley College. The play, written by James McLure, is the second production of LAVC's theater arts department this semester.

In an attempt to attract a larger and more diverse audience to the theater, Hayes will be directing plays with more realistic content during the semester.

Hayes is no stranger to the theater. At the age of three he sang gospel music in a group called the Star Steps.

"After doing Stevie Wonder and James Brown impersonations in my youth I began actively studying drama at Wayne State University," said Hayes, who holds a doctorate in speech communications from that institution.

Hayes has been teaching drama at Valley since 1983. He is also an actor with guest appearances in *General Hospital*, *The Fall Guy* and *Crazy Like a Fox*.

However, his acting career takes second place to Valley.

He said, "I would like to teach drama at Valley for the rest of my career. I like the people, department

and facilities here."

Hayes is also enthusiastic about the direction in which he plans to steer Valley's theater department.

"In the past we've been going with the more traditional shows that hit a middle-of-the-road audience," said Hayes. "What I'm trying to do is hit a wider range of people; everybody's heard of the Beatles."

The set for *The Day They Shot John Lennon* will recreate the front of the Dakota, Lennon's apartment building. The play presents a diverse group of ten people who gather there after Lennon's assassination, each reflecting a segment of society.

They include three high school students (Christina Williams, Joseph Spencer and Brian Markovitz), an urban street kid

(Robert Herrer) and a homeless woman (Cathy Kelleher).

The cast also includes Chris Arredondo and Colin Cunningham as Vietnam veterans trying to adjust, Jim O'Donoghue as a neglected old man and Renee Russelle and Mark Rickerby as two people facing identity crises.

Despite the potentially heavy subject matter, *The Day They Shot John Lennon* is not downbeat. Versions of Beatles and Lennon songs, combined with some comic relief, are also an integral part of the play. *The Day They Shot John Lennon* will be performed next Thursday, Friday, Saturday and the following weekend at the Mainstage Theater. Tickets will be \$5 for general admission and \$3 for students and seniors.

Move to the city— avoid 'The 'Burbs' Hanks and Dante waste their talents

By DEAN HOTTA
Entertainment Editor

It seems to be a case of feast or famine for director Joe Dante.

Dante's last film was the criminally-ignored *Innerspace*, but his previous works (*Gremlins* and *Explorers*) are the stuff of "worst films of the year" lists.

Well, add another one to the list. *The 'Burbs* is a cinematic turkey, and one wonders if Tom Hanks' agent has something against his client.

It's unbelievable that Hanks, an Academy-award nominee, would follow the success of *Big* and, to a lesser extent, *Punchline*, with this waste of good celluloid.

The 'Burbs is nothing more than a thinly disguised re-working of *Neighbors*, the 1981 film starring Dan Aykroyd and the late John Belushi.

Come to think of it, *Neighbors* wasn't too funny either.

The 'Burbs is the story about a group of suburbanites who become suspicious about the new family on the block. Hanks is Ray Peterson, whose property shares boundaries with the Klopeks, a mysterious clan who never seem to get out of the house.

Egged on by his other screwball neighbors, which include chief dimwit Art Weingartner (Rick Ducommun) and semi-psychotic ex-soldier Mark Rumsfield (Bruce Dern), Peterson decides against his better sense to get to the bottom of things.

Dern, who must have a clause in his contract to play only mentally

unbalanced people, is *The 'Burbs*'s only saving grace here. That's only courtesy of default though as he gets to deliver the film's only really funny line.

The rest of the cast merely serves as a neutral backdrop for the



Tom Hanks and Carrie Fisher are a couple of suburbanites in *The 'Burbs*.

project: an intelligent plotline, workable script, humor, sympathetic characters, etc.

And why is Hanks so terribly unfunny? Much of it lies in Dana Olsen's script, which is so lackluster that a 55-gallon drum of Geritol would be needed to rouse it from lethargy.

Then again, Olsen was also a staff writer for *Laverne and Shirley*, the bastion of television excellence.

Dante gets to share the blame here as well. His direction has become rote, with little imagination or creativity behind it.

The 'Burbs's style is plagiarized directly from the early works of Steven Spielberg, in which an undercurrent of dread is masked by a normal exterior.

But copying Spielberg's style does not assure box-office gold or even a coherent movie. The problem here is that his style does not lend itself well to commedia.

Intermittent humor is present in his works, but even Spielberg's only attempt at a fully comedic film (*1941*) failed.

Dante does have talent; *Innerspace* is enough justification for that statement. But *The 'Burbs* would be a tough comedy to direct for Rob Reiner, Tim Burton or anyone else for that matter. Dante isn't quite in their class and he isn't a miracle worker, yet.

That goes for Hanks as well. Hanks has proven himself to be considerably gifted, given a good role. But not even he can lift *The 'Burbs* out of the doldrums; one hopes that his next project won't subvert his comedic skills.

The main question is basically this: how does a movie like this one get past the script reader's desk? It has none of the prerequisites necessary to become a worthwhile

project: an intelligent plotline, workable script, humor, sympathetic characters, etc.

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Valley Star
Thursday, Feb. 23, 1989
4

(Robert Herrer) and a homeless woman (Cathy Kelleher).

The cast also includes Chris Arredondo and Colin Cunningham as Vietnam veterans trying to adjust, Jim O'Donoghue as a neglected old man and Renee Russelle and Mark Rickerby as two people facing identity crises.

Despite the potentially heavy subject matter, *The Day They Shot John Lennon* is not downbeat. Versions of Beatles and Lennon songs, combined with some comic relief, are also an integral part of the play. *The Day They Shot John Lennon* will be performed next Thursday, Friday, Saturday and the following weekend at the Mainstage Theater. Tickets will be \$5 for general admission and \$3 for students and seniors.

EVENT CALENDAR

Freedom Festival

The Freedom Festival will take place tomorrow in Monarch Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sponsored by the Black Student Union, the event will feature Afro-American performers, including African dancers, the rap group *Body and Soul* and the dance group *The Soul Brothers*. Iyo Sharp will also be there to read his own poetry.

Slide Lecture

The Earth Science Department at Valley will offer a free slide lecture series in Room 109 of the Math-Science Building on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.

Richard M. Raskoff's *February 9, 1971: The Sylmar Quake Revisited* will be the opening presentation on Feb. 28.

Astronomy Show

The Valley College Astronomy Club presents their second-planetarium show of the semester on Mar. 10 at 8 p.m.

Titled *The Spring Skies: Myth or Fact*, the show will focus on the constellations and the various stories surrounding them.

Admission will be \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for children between eight and 16; children under eight will not be allowed. Club members and College staff will receive a \$1 discount with the showing of a I.D. card.

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SPORTS TALK

By JERRY SAWINSKI
Assoc. Sports Editor

This season has definitely been a winter of discontent for the Monarch basketball team.

The team has had to finish the season by forfeiting the last three games on their schedule.

The decision to forfeit the remaining games was made after a review of academic records revealed poor attendance and failing grades for several players.

Coach Jim Stephens said he repeatedly warned players about missing classes, although he feels he should have been tougher about it.

"I may have been a little too lenient with some of the players and when you give them an inch they take a mile," said Stephens.

Quiet but intense, Stephens has a knack for getting the most out of his players, but this year was even more than he could deal with. "This is my 27th season in coaching and it was a big lesson for me," said Stephens.

In addition to the academic problems, players often showed up late for practices and games or didn't show up at all. The loss of starter Joey Manluis was also a big blow to the team.

Stephens continued to piece together lineups in order to compete but when only four players showed up to the game against Glendale Feb. 15 there wasn't any alternative left except to call it quits for this season.

These kinds of problems are not endemic to Valley College; other junior college programs have had to deal with the same types of problems.

Despite this season's disappointing finish, Men's Athletic Director George Goff said the men's basketball program is healthy and will come back strong next year.

Stephens agreed, saying "We have some very good players who redshirted this year coming back next season so we should be pretty good."



Guard Tisa Rush (32) leads the break in Lady Monarchs 92-33 win over Glendale Lady Vaqueros.

Ladies romp to conference title

By EDWARD YOON
Staff Writer

In a game that clinched the Western States Conference title for the Lady Monarchs, the toughest decision Head Coach Doug Michelson had to make was when to put in his subs in a 92-33 rout of the Lady Vaqueros of Glendale City College.

The victory gave the conference champions a record of 26-3 (11-1 in the conference) and a No. 5 ranking in the state. The Lady Monarchs will now prepare for the Regionals where they are seeded third.

"Winning the conference title was one of our goals," said Head Coach Doug Michelson. "I'm just really happy for the players who played hard, and this is their reward for their effort."

"This is a very, very unselfish team, and that is why we are the conference champs," he added. "Our next goal is to get past the regionals (of the state tournament)."

The Lady Vaqueros (8-14, 2-7 in the conference), who played Valley tough in an earlier meeting before losing 72-61, came into the game without their leading scorer and rebounder, Dolly Lucero. Glendale

also was a little thin with only six suited players. As a result, the lopsided score did not surprise Glendale Head Coach Robert Hooper.

"I wasn't shocked by the score," said Hooper. "We felt we were outmatched from the start because of our injuries, and Valley used its depth to wear us down."

"I'm not surprised either," counters Michelson. "We have improved immensely since (their last meeting)."

The game was a mismatch from the start as Valley got off to an early 19-0 lead.

The Lady Monarchs used their height advantage to crash the boards at both ends of the court while pounding the ball inside to Team Captain Ruth Aguilar and forward Shagarro Lattin for easy baskets.

Valley held Glendale scoreless until 13:43 in the first half. A full court press caused five turnovers during the 19-0 run. The pressure defense had the smaller Lady Vaqueros confused and caused them to miss easy baskets once they were able to get by the press.

Glendale could not get any closer as Valley raced out to a 47-13 half-time lead.

Glendale point guard Laura Redford was held scoreless in the

first half as a result of excellent defense by Valley guard Tisa Rush.

The second half did not get any better for Glendale as Valley's three-point shooter Rush began hitting from the outside to compliment the inside game, which featured Aguilar, Lattin and sixth woman Sandrine Rocher. The result was a 22-7 run to increase their lead to 71-20.

With the game well in hand, Michelson decided to take the full court press off and to bring in the substitutes. However, things continued to get worse for Glendale as even the substitutes began to hit.

Backup center Marianne Murphy and forward Laura Kirkpatrick came off the bench to score eight points and six points respectively in the last 15 minutes of the game.

Rusher led a balanced attack with 17 points, eight rebounds and four steals as all 12 Lady Monarchs scored.

Rush, who played a solid defensive game, scored 13 points and had three assists and three steals. Ruth Aguilar added 17 points and eight rebounds.

Bianca Howard led Glendale in scoring with only eight points and Laura Redford scored six points, all in the second half.

Team remains undefeated
Monarchs rout LACC Cubs

By ERIC BARAD
Staff Writer

The Valley baseball team took batting practice twice last Tuesday: once before the game and once against the pathetic pitching of Los Angeles City College.

A nine-run second inning opened the flood gates for the Monarchs, embarrassing their host 18-6 to improve their record to 6-0-1.

Shortstop Ray Sabado highlighted the second inning with a grand-slam over the left field fence for a commanding 5-0 lead.

Sabado raised his batting average to .333 and increased his RBIs to eight, knocking in six on the day.

Wayne Schull, Valley's starting pitcher, breezed to his second victory, pitching five strong innings.

Schull allowed four runs and struck out six batters, his season high.

"I feel good that we won, but I could've done a lot better," said Schull.

The only disappointing note of the game for the Monarchs was that

Mark Cavaretta, their leading hitter with a .500 average, suffered an injured Achilles heel when he was stepped on by L.A. City's Herman Brown in the second inning.

However, Cavaretta is expected to be ready in time for the San Bernardino tournament which starts today.

Other notables of the game were a four-for-four performance by Valley center fielder Mike Caputi, who also scored a game-high four runs.

"I saw the ball today. It was a real team effort: everybody hit real well," said Caputi.

Despite an offensive outpour, coach Chris Johnson still sees room for improvement.

"I thought we did all right. We swung the bat well, but under the circumstances our pitching should've been better," Johnson said.

Johnson is optimistic about the tournament. "I think we have a chance to win it. We have to make adjustments, going back and forth to San Bernardino each day," Johnson said.

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Childhood trauma haunts young woman

Editors Note: With rape, incest and child molestation prevalent in today's headlines, the Star presents this news feature.

This article is not meant to offend. The writer chose to show this side of the issue to make it more "human" instead of the usual

By ANNIE OUZOUNIAN
Managing Editor

"Don't!"
"Stop, please stop!"

"It was my fault."

"If I tell, he'll hurt me more."

"Mommy might get mad if I tell her."

These are the words coming from a hurt and confused little girl. When a person's privacy has been violated, there's no way to mend the scar.

Rape, child molestation and incest are the end of a little girl's innocence.

"I didn't know what was happening to me. Since no one had told me about the birds and the bees at that time, it was just very confusing," said an anonymous girl.

innocence and the beginning of a nightmare.

"I didn't know what was happening to me. Since no one had told me about the birds and the bees at that time, it was just very confusing," said an anonymous girl, now in her mid-20's, who went through the traumatic experience of rape/incest, by her uncle, when she was 13 years old.

The nightmares began the moment he began to touch the places with which she felt uncomfortable.

"All I know is that I kept telling him to stop and he wouldn't. He would give me this stare with a disgusting smile on his face; it just unanswered question, and the touching continued, other questions were raised in her head.

"I cried every night and prayed to God to make him stop. I kept asking God why I was being punished this way," and tears ran down her face as she continued to remember her traumatic experience.

"That day... I was outside playing with my friends and no one was home but him. He was inside the house when he called my name."

With fear in her eyes, she continued.

"I felt my heart go down to the pit of my stomach and I tried to ignore it until my friend turned to me

statistical side that we, as readers, are shown in daily papers.

It's purpose is not to inform, but rather to provoke thought and inspire feedback.

It is an issue that we as a society must address constantly.

"I was terrified! I didn't know who to tell. How was I supposed to tell someone what was happening to me, when I didn't even know what was happening to me?"

Research indicates that in most cases the victim is threatened by the thoughts of "it was my fault," or "he'll hurt me more if I tell" and even "mommy might get mad if I tell her." Fear and uncertainty usually puts the victim in a situation where vulnerability and being naive allows things to get worse.

As the days went by, the touching and feeling kept getting worse. There was no way of avoiding him. She couldn't yell out for help and she couldn't yell to stop.

As each day went by with an know what else to do.

"Well, I went in and asked him what he wanted from the doorway. Before I got to finish my sentence he called out my name again but this time with a harsh voice.

"I wanted to cry and yell but I couldn't. I went to the bathroom where he was washing his hands... I just can't believe this actually happened to me.

"Anyway, I stood in the doorway and he looked at me as though this was something he had to do! With an aggressive tone of voice he told me to get in, and I did. Then he told me to bring down my panties. I just looked at him thinking this man is crazy, and as I was about to walk out, he stopped me."

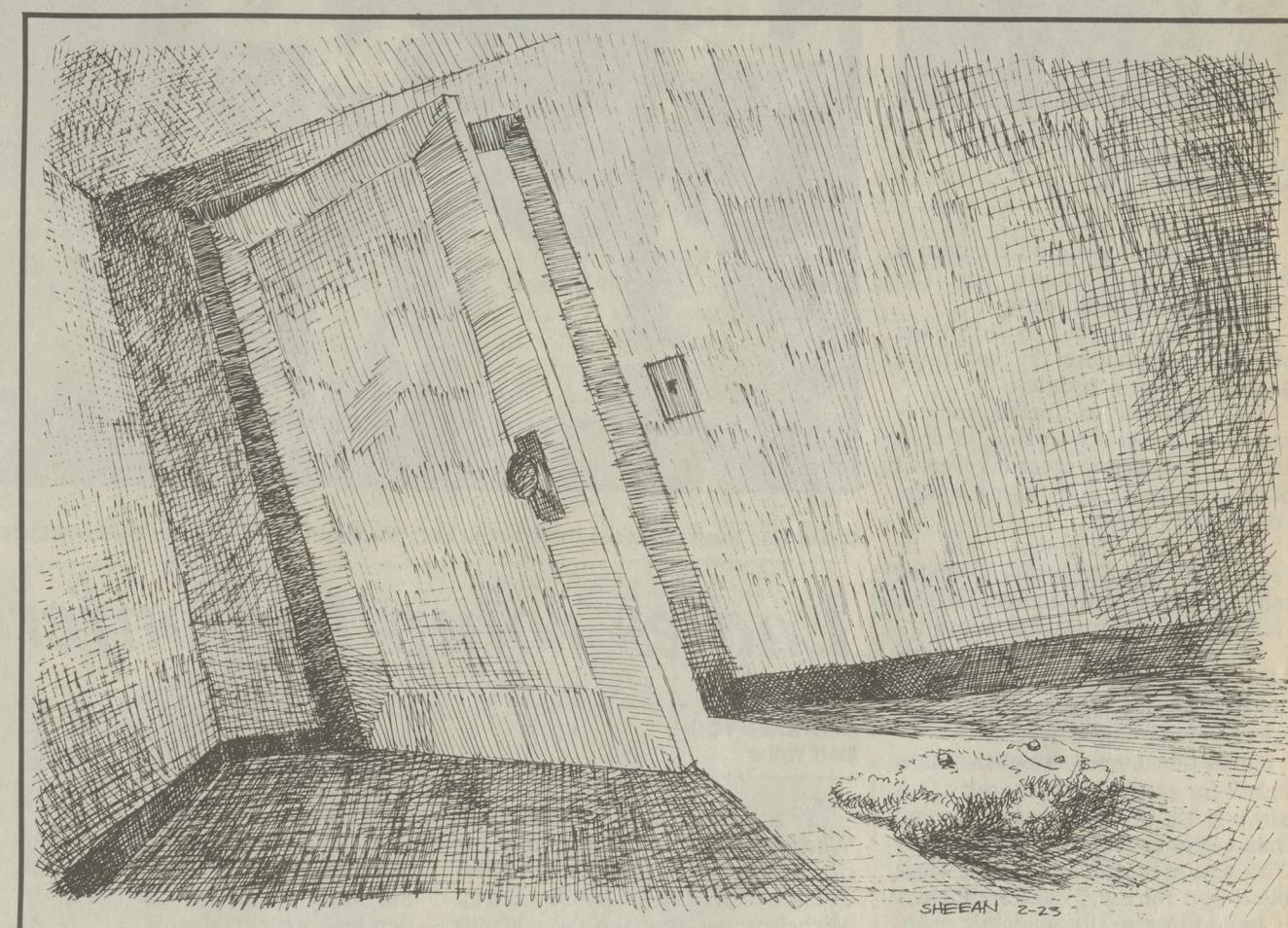
From this point on readers' discretion is advised.

"He looked at me and told me again to bring down my panties. I got so scared that I just felt hypnotized because his voice was the only thing I heard, the look in his eyes was the only thing I could see and fear was the only thing I could feel," and she continued, tears running down her face.

"Then he told me to spread my legs!! I was standing in the bathroom with my panties down thinking, 'What am I doing, what is going on?'"

At this point her voice got louder with anger and hatred. She saw something that turned into her worst enemy and *felt* something that she never wishes to feel again.

"After that, I really don't remember what happened, except when my mom found out about it. Many questions were raised about my virginity and I didn't even know what that meant. I was getting so confused! I was checked over by a doctor, and in the meantime I kept



telling them it was my fault.

"You'd think after ten years everything would be behind you, and with a lot of family support you'd be able to go on without letting such a nightmare disturb any part of your life, especially your

Night after night the nightmares got more detailed until she remembered the whole incident;

personal life," she said with remorse.

She blocked it out of her mind for more than ten years. Then, just

when she thought everything was fine, the memories were brought back when she accidentally overheard an argument between her aunt and mother.

Night after night the nightmares got more detailed, until she remembered the whole incident; to this day she harbors a fear of the male genitalia.

Statistics say one out of three women in Los Angeles have been raped.

What is more disturbing is the fact that more than half of the victims don't even report the incident.

Today this young woman wants to reach out to those who have gone through a similar experience and reassure them that they're not alone.

"I went through this with no

help, and it wasn't easy. I suppose that is why I blocked it out of my mind for so long. I think anyone who goes through something like this should not be afraid to ask for help, whether it is family or professional help.

"This is the biggest step I've taken to come out of my shell of secrecy and hurt, and I hope by telling my story to others they will not commit the same mistakes that I did."

For those looking for assistance or know of anyone who needs professional help can call the Valley Trauma rape hotline at (818) 886-0453.

It goes by many names; rape, incest, child molestation. The most accurate description to this is what she calls it: "an ongoing nightmare."

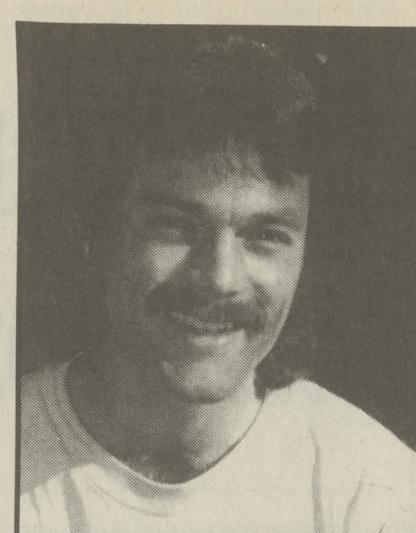
Lou Woodruff
Child Dev. major

"I would report him, even in the family, who did something to my children."
"In the past the laws protected the criminal instead of the victim, I'm more severe to the person that commits the crime."



Janet Holmes
Liberal Arts major

"It's such a humiliating and degrading position to be put in, since it will stay with the victim the rest of her life."
"We're supposed to be so advanced in civilization and culture yet many times we revert back to the barbarian way of living a supposedly advanced culture and civilization."



David Morris
Business major

"I certainly don't have anything good to say about rape or incest."
"It's not enforced with the intensity that I would like to see... the anti-rape lobbyist get sidetracked, or spent too much time on technical things like clothing, instead of lobbying for severe penalties."
"I really want severe penalties!"



ANNIE OUZOUNIAN / Valley Star

In an effort to create an open forum these three students were randomly chosen to state their feelings on this specific issue.

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